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January 10, 2005

TO:

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner PATEL

Patent Examining Corps

Facsimile Center

Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF:

10873.897US01

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Total pages, including cover letter: 3

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Title of OFFICIAL Document Transmitted:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Applicant:

YAMAMOTO et al.

Serial No.:

10/086,944

Filed:

02/28/02

Group Art Unit: 2655

Confirmation No. 4437

Our Ref. No.:

10873.897US01

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I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

January 10, 2005

Date

Ø 002/003

JAN 1 0 2005

S/N 10/086,944

<u>PATENT</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner:

PATEL

Serial No.:

10/086,944

Group Art Unit:

Name: Gina M. Dahl

8.

2655

Filed:

February 28, 2002

Docket No.:

10873.897US01

Title:

OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIUM, OPTICAL INFORMATION

PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPTICAL RECORDING AND

REPRODUCING METHOD

CERTIFIC ATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): 1 hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 10, 2005.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants elect Group I (claims 1 to 7) in response to the Restriction

Requirement of December 9, 2004. Applicants traverse the restriction requirement to the extent of requesting that the non-elected Groups II and III be retained for possible reinstatement if elected claims are found allowable.

Applicants further elect species I. Claims 1-3 read upon the elected species.

Claim 1 is generic. While Applicants are not conceding an absence of patentable distinction among the species, Applicants respectfully suggest that the subject matter of the non-elected species that of the elected species have a sufficiently close relationship that examination of the non-elected species would not represent an undue burden in the present application.

S/N 10/086,944

REGARDA CENTER

JAN 1 0 2005

PATENT

An early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account

No. 13-2725.

Dated: January 10, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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